



East Alabama
Health 

Dear Auburn University Child Life Practicum Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in Auburn University's Child Life Practicum Program at East Alabama Health. Individuals involved in the practicum program will gain experience working with children through the Emergency Department, General Pediatrics Unit, Radiology, and Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. Opportunities to work with other units such as surgery, CVICU, ICU, and bi-monthly sickle cell clinic are also available on occasion. Additional experiences to see behind the scenes of Child Life from a non-profit perspective at Smile-A-Mile, in Birmingham, AL are possible. Patients range from birth to eighteen-years-old. At this time, we are able to offer practicum during the fall, spring, and summer semester. This packet includes a description of our practicum program and application requirement materials.

Our Child Life practicum offers opportunities for students including:

- Interacting daily with children/families in the healthcare setting, as well as our interdisciplinary team of medical professionals
- Recognizing and understanding child/family reactions to stress, illness, and pain.
- Identifying the importance of medical preparation and procedural support to promote positive coping outcomes.
- Observing medical procedures when appropriate.
- Recognizing the value of education, play, and psychosocially supportive interventions.
- Learning to plan and facilitate a variety of activities for children of diverse ages and capabilities.
- Expanding knowledge of medical terminology.
- Adapting skills of prioritization, setting goals, self-evaluation, and time management.
- Developing professional attitudes, growth, maturity, and judgement.

We truly appreciate your interest in our program.

Sincerely,

Amanda Newberry Butler, M.S., CCLS
Savannah S. Kelly, M.S.W., CCLS
Madison Ard, M.S.W., CCLS



East Alabama
Health 

A practicum provides the student an opportunity to become familiar with Child Life services and children's reactions to hospitalization. Observational experiences and assignments encourage the development of communication skills with individuals and groups, provide supportive environment to integrate theory with clinical practice and enhance the student's experience with planning and implementing therapeutic activities.

Eligibility Requirements:

- Our Practicum Program is designed for Auburn University Child Life Students only
- Completion of sophomore year of an accredited university within a curriculum that reflects an understanding of growth across the lifespan and families theories
- A minimum of a 3.0 GPA
- Completion or current enrollment in at least one of the following courses:
 1. Hospitalized Children and Their Families
 2. Therapeutic Play
- Completion of a total of 100 hours of verifiable volunteer fieldwork experience with children in a structured environment (i.e., child development center, daycare, preschool, children's hospital, camp, etc.). Volunteer with hospitalized children is strongly encouraged
- Applicants must be able to commit to a minimum of 120 hours in the hospital over the course of one semester. Students are expected to be available for child life practicum during regular business hours
- Well-developed interpersonal and communication skills
- Adaptability and flexibility

*Individuals meeting the minimum entrance requirements may submit a completed to application. Please submit your completed application online to the following email address:

Madison Ard
mkn0014@auburn.edu

Applicants not containing the following components will be considered incomplete. **INCOMPLETE AND LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE REVIEWED.** Top candidates will be contacts to arrange an interview. An e-mail will be sent to those applicants who do not meet the requirements.



East Alabama
Health 

Please complete the following in its entirety and **email in one document** in order to be considered for an interview for our Child Life Practicum:

- ___ 1. One letter of recommendation by non-family professional/academic professor who have observed your work ethic or experience with children.
Sent from recommender's email address with your first and last name as subject line.
- ___ 2. A copy of your student schedule for the semester you are applying (and a list of responsibilities that you will have other than practicum, if applicable). If you have not registered for courses by the time of application deadline, please include your *tentative course schedule* for the semester in which you are applying.
- ___ 3. Cover letter and Resume
- ___ 4. Practicum Questionnaire and Essay Questions
- ___ 5. Completed Practicum Application

Applicant Signature: _____ Date: _____

Due Dates:

To be considered for Fall, please submit your application by June 1st.

To be considered for Spring, please submit your application by October 1st.

To be considered for Summer, please submit your application by March 1st.

**If you have further questions regarding the application process, please email
Madison Ard at mkn0014@auburn.edu**

*If accepted into our practicum program, you must provide copies of your current completed 10 panel Drug Screen, background check (see *administrative support in Spidle 203 for College of Human Sciences background check process to request a copy*), current professional liability insurance (*form acquired from Auburn University Risk Management & Safety-- Phone (334) 844-4533*), all current immunizations: including PPD, TB, Hepatitis B x3, MMR2, current Tetanus Vaccine (within 10 years), current Flu vaccine, a completed-negative PPD Test, a COVID-19 acknowledgement waiver, and a copy of current CPR/BLS Certification [**Certification must be provided from the AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION: CPR/Basic Life Support Certification as required by EAH's Education Policy. Absolutely NO other form of CPR/BLS certification will be accepted.**]



Auburn University Child Life Practicum Application

Fall Spring Summer 20_____

2. Please select your class standing:

Sophomore Junior Senior Graduate Student

3. Please select the classes you have completed, or in which you are currently enrolled:

1. Therapeutic Play completed currently enrolled to be completed _____
semester (ex: Fall 2023)

2. Hospitalized Children & Their Families
 completed currently enrolled to be completed _____
semester (ex: Fall 2023)

3. Death and Dying completed currently enrolled to be completed _____
semester (ex: Fall 2023)

4. Child Life Advanced Seminar
 completed currently enrolled to be completed _____
semester (ex: Fall 2023)

4. Are you a member of the Association of Child Life Professionals? Yes No

ACLP Membership # _____

5. Are you CPR Certified by the American Heart Association (AHA) in CPR/BLS? Yes No

American Heart Association CPR Certification # _____

If accepted into our practicum, certification must be from AHA

6. Have you ever been convicted of a felony? Yes No

*If yes, please describe the nature of the offense and the punishment you received"

7. Do you anticipate any other commitments during your practicum? (e.g. Greek organization, work, clubs, etc.). Yes No *If so, what are your hours/time constraints:

8. Do you have any physical limitations or special accommodations that need to be considered?

Yes No *If you checked yes, please explain below:

9. Current Cumulative GPA: _____

Essay Questions

Please limit responses to under 200 words.

1. How did you learn about the child life profession and what interests you most about this field?
2. What are your expectations for your practicum experience?
3. What are your career goals?
4. There are several places where you can work with children. What reasons do you have for wanting to complete your practicum at East Alabama Health?